

WILDLIFE HABITAT APPRAISAL GUIDE-MISSOURI

Landowner _____ Appraiser _____

Location T _____ R _____ S _____ County _____

Total Acres Appraised _____

Completed by MDC _____ ConAg _____ SCS _____ Other _____

Field No. _____

Habitat Characteristics

Acres

Percent Nonforest Wetlands in 2 Mile Wide Circle (2000 Ac.)

1. >75%
2. 50-75%
3. 25-50%
4. 10-25%
5. <10%

Water Depth 4-18" by August (% wetland covered by August 1st)

1. 25-50%
2. 50-75%
3. <25%
4. >75%

Percent Permanent Water Entire Year¹

1. >90%
2. 75-90% (Multiply Index by .90)
3. 50-75% (Multiply Index by .75)
4. 25-50% (Multiply Index by .50)
5. <25% (Multiply Index by .25)

Woody Invasion (% wetland coverage)

1. >10%
2. 10-25%
3. 25-50%
4. 50-75%
5. >75%

Cattail and Bulrush Coverage (% wetland coverage)

1. >75%
2. 50-75%
3. 25-50%
4. 10-25%
5. <10%

Water Regime^{2,3}

1. Gradual drying with 25-50% water remaining by August 1
2. Gradual drying with <25% water remaining by August 1
3. Gradual drying with 50-75% water remaining by August 1
4. Gradual drying with >75% water remaining by August 1
5. Stable water
6. Rapid drying; or no water after June 1

Percent Emergent Vegetation within 2 Yds of Water

1. >75% of emergent vegetation within 2 yd. of water
2. 50-75% of emergent vegetation within 2 yd. of water
3. 25-50% of emergent vegetation within 2 yd. of water
4. <25% of emergent vegetation within 2 yd. of water

Percent Open Water (water with <50% canopy coverage vegetation)

1. <10%
2. 10-25%
3. 25-50%
4. 50-90%
5. >90%

LEAST BITTERN MUSKRAT

Nonforest Wetland Habitat Type

Least Bittern

Muskrat

10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
10	10	10	10	10	4	4	4	4	4
7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
4	4	4	4	4	1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1	10	10	10	10	10
					10	10	10	10	10
					8	8	8	8	8
					6	6	6	6	6
					4	4	4	4	4
					1	1	1	1	1
10	10	10	10	10	5	5	5	5	5
8	8	8	8	8	4	4	4	4	4
6	6	6	6	6	3	3	3	3	3
4	4	4	4	4	4	2	2	2	2
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
					10	10	10	10	10
					8	8	8	8	8
					6	6	6	6	6
					4	4	4	4	4
					1	1	1	1	1
10	10	10	10	10	4	4	4	4	4
8	8	8	8	8	2	2	2	2	2
6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
4	4	4	4	4	8	8	8	8	8
2	2	2	2	2	10	10	10	10	10
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
10	10	10	10	10					
7	7	7	7	7					
4	4	4	4	4					
1	1	1	1	1					
					10	10	10	10	10
					8	8	8	8	8
					6	6	6	6	6
					4	4	4	4	4
					1	1	1	1	1

Least Bittern & Muskrat

Subtotals

Date _____

Habitat Planning Key

○ - Existing

⊕ - Planned

● - Applied

		LEAST BITTERN MUSKRAT							
		Least Bittern				Muskkrat			
Subtotals									
Field No.									
Winter Water Depth (December-April)						10	10	10	10
1. 15-24"						7	7	7	7
2. 10-15" or 24-30"						4	4	4	4
3. 6-10" or 30-36"						1	1	1	1
4. <6" or >36"									
Emergent Vegetation Coverage³ (% wetland coverage)									
1. >90% Includes erect, herbaceous plants		6	6	6	6				
2. 75-90% present for most of the growing		10	10	10	10				
3. 50-75% season.		8	8	8	8				
4. 25-50%		4	4	4	4				
5. 10-25%		2	2	2	2				
3. <10%		1	1	1	1				
Wetland Size³									
1. >200 acres		10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
2. 100-200 acres		10	10	10	10	8	8	8	8
3. 50-100 acres		8	8	8	8	6	6	6	6
4. 25-50 acres		6	6	6	6	4	4	4	4
5. 5-25 acres		4	4	4	4	2	2	2	2
4. <5 acres		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Existing Total									
Planned Total									
Applied Total									
Check Footnotes									
		70	70	70	70	85	85	85	85
Habitat Type Index =									
Total Actual Score									
Max. Possible Score									
Farm Habitat Index =									
Σ(Habitat Type Indexes x Acres)									
Total Acres Appraised									
Existing Farm = _____									
Index									
Planned Farm = _____									
Index									

Habitat	Score	0.75 - 1.0	0.50 - 0.75	0.25 - 0.50	0 - 0.25
Quality	Rating	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Acres/Muskkrat		< .25	.25-1	1-4	> 4
Acres/Least Bittern		< 1	1-3	3-6	> 6

NOTES:

1. **Muskkrat:** If Percent Permanent Water Entire Year scores less than 10, multiply index by indicated percent.
2. **Muskkrat:** If Water Regime scores 1, enter 0.1 as Habitat Type Index.
3. **Least Bittern:** If Emergent Vegetation Coverage, Wetland Size or Water Regime score 1, enter 0.1 as Habitat Type Index.

